

COUNTRY DATA: MOROCCO: Information from the CIA World Factbook

INTRODUCTION


In 788, about a century after the Arab conquest of North Africa, successive Moorish dynasties began to rule in Morocco. In the 16th century, the Sa'adi monarchy, particularly under Ahmad AL-MANSUR (1578-1603), repelled foreign invaders and inaugurated a golden age. The Alaouite dynasty, to which the current Moroccan royal family belongs, established a sultanate in Morocco beginning in the 17th century. In 1860, Spain occupied northern Morocco and ushered in a half century of trade rivalry among European powers that saw Morocco's sovereignty steadily erode; in 1912, the French imposed a protectorate over the country. A protracted independence struggle with France ended successfully in 1956. The internationalized city of Tangier and most Spanish possessions were turned over to the new country that same year. Sultan MOHAMMED V, the current monarch's grandfather, organized the new state as a constitutional monarchy and in 1957 assumed the title of King. Morocco annexed Western Sahara during the late 1970s, but final resolution on the status of the territory remains unresolved. Gradual political reforms in the 1990s resulted in the establishment of a bicameral legislature, which first met in 1997. Under King MOHAMMED VI - who in 1999 succeeded his father to the throne - human rights have improved. Morocco enjoys a moderately free press, but the government occasionally takes action against journalists who report on three broad subjects considered to be taboo: the monarchy, Islam, and the status of Western Sahara. Despite the continuing reforms, ultimate authority remains in the hands of the monarch.

GEOGRAPHY

Location	Northern Africa, bordering the North Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, between Algeria and Western Sahara.
Area	446,550 sq km
Climate	Mediterranean, becoming more extreme in the interior.
Natural Resources	Phosphates, iron ore, manganese, lead, zinc, fish, salt.
Total Renewable Water Resources	29 cu km (2003)
Freshwater Withdrawal	12.6 cu km/yr (10%/3%/87%)
Natural Hazards	Northern mountains geologically unstable and subject to earthquakes; periodic droughts.
Environmental Issues	Land degradation/desertification (soil erosion resulting from farming of marginal areas, overgrazing, destruction of vegetation); water supplies contaminated by raw sewage; siltation of reservoirs; oil pollution of coastal waters.

PEOPLE

Population	31,627,428 (July 2010 est.)
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Ethnic Groups	Arab-Berber 99.1%, other 0.7%, Jewish 0.2%
Religions	Muslim 98.7%, Christian 1.1%, Jewish 0.2%
Languages	Arabic (official), Berber dialects, French often the language of business, government, and diplomacy.
Literacy Rate	52.3%
Major Infectious Diseases	HIV/AIDS - adult prevalence rate: 0.1% (2007 est.) 
GOVERNMENT	
Type	Constitutional Monarchy
Independence	2 March 1956 (from France).
Constitution	10 March 1972; revised 4 September 1992, amended September 1996. <i>Note: the amendment of September 1996 was to create a bicameral legislature.</i>
Legal System	Based on Islamic law and French and Spanish civil law systems; judicial review of legislative acts in Constitutional Chamber of Supreme Court; has not accepted compulsory International Court of Justice jurisdiction.
ECONOMY	
Agricultural Products	Barley, wheat, citrus fruits, grapes, vegetables, olives; livestock; wine.
Industries	Phosphate rock mining and processing, food processing, leather goods, textiles, construction, energy, tourism.
Import commodities	Crude petroleum, textile fabric, telecommunications equipment, wheat, gas and electricity, transistors, plastics.
Import Partners	France 16.95%, Spain 14.72%, China 7.1%, Italy 6.76%, Germany 6.28%, US 5.66%, Saudi Arabia 5.11% (2009).
Export Commodities	Clothing and textiles, electric components, inorganic chemicals, transistors, crude minerals, fertilizers (including phosphates), petroleum products, citrus fruits, vegetables, fish.
Export Partners	Spain 22.02%, France 20.22%, India 4.91%, Italy 4% (2009).
Per Capita GDP	\$4,600 (2009 est.)
Population below poverty line	15% (2007 est.)

*CITATIONS: All information included above is extracted from the CIA World Factbook except where noted.

COUNTRY: Morocco

General	
Life Expectancy at Birth (in years)	71.8 years
Average number of years in School (in years)	4.4 years
Gross National Income Per Capita (In US Dollars)	\$4,628
Gender Inequality	
Female Seats in Parliament (%)	6.2%
Population with at least a Secondary Education Female (% Of 25 and older)	20.1%
Population with at least a Secondary Education Male (% Of 25 and older)	36.4%
Labor Force Participation Female (%)	28.7%
Labor Force Participation Male (%)	83.6%
Births Attended by Skilled Health Professionals (%)	63%
Poverty	
Population surviving on \$1.25 per day (%)	2.5%
Empowerment	
Number of Journalists Imprisoned	1
Corruption Victims (% of people who face a bribe situation in the last year)	24%
Political Engagement (% percent of people who voiced opinion to public officials)	6%

Sustainability	
Fossil Fuels as Primary Energy Source (%)	94%
Renewable Resources as Primary Energy Source (%)	4%
Population without Access to Water (%)	19%
Population Without Access to Sanitation Services (%)	31%
Population affected by natural disasters (% between 2000-2009)	.12%
Human Security	
Number of Refugees leaving this country	3,500
Number of Internally Displaced People in This Country	NA
Prevalence of Undernourishment (%)	<5%
Demographics	
Urban Residents (% of total Population)	58.2%
Health	
HIV Prevalence in Female Youth (% ages 15-24)	.1%
HIV Prevalence in Male Youth (% ages 15-24)	.1%
HIV Prevalence in Adults (% ages 15-49)	.1%
Other	
Official Development Assistance Per Capita (in US dollars)	\$39
Population without Electricity (%)	2.8%

Morocco's Public Expenditure

